

YOUR SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT • RECYCLING • REUSE • WASTE PREVENTION • POLLUTION PREVENTION • FALL 2009

# **Holiday Reminders**



#### **On-Call Plus**

Remember to schedule a free On-Call Plus clean up appointment soon. There will be no appointments during holiday tree collection from December 18, 2009 through January 15, 2010. However, vouchers to the SMaRT Station will still be available. Call Foothill Disposal at **650-967-3034** for more information.

#### **Collection Schedule**

There is no garbage or recycling collection on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day or New Year's Day. If your collection day falls on or after the holiday, collection will occur one day later that week, with Friday collection on Saturday.

# When to Change Your Motor Oil

#### 3,000 Miles Not Always Recommended

One easy way to make a big difference for the environment is to simply follow your car manufacturer's guidelines for oil changes. A study by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) found that 73 percent of California drivers change motor oil more frequently than the manufacturer recommends. The study also estimated that only fifty-nine percent of the waste motor oil generated by Californians each year is recycled. Reducing oil change frequency will reduce the amount of waste oil being generated in California and therefore reduce the serious impact to local waterways caused by improper disposal. Automakers often recommend driving longer distances between oil changes than in the past. Last year, Ford Motor Company announced a recommendation that motorists change the oil every 7,500 miles for 2007 or newer vehicles. Be sure to check your owner's manual for oil change guidelines. Recommendations vary based on vehicle model, make, year and driving conditions. For further information, visit www.3000milemyth.org

## How to Properly Dispose Motor Oil

Residents with Curbside Recycling Carts: Put used motor oil and filters in containers provided by Foothill Disposal (650-967-3034) and set on top of curb near the split-cart. Other containers may not be substituted.

Other Residents: Take used motor oil, filters, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids to the SMaRT Station, 301Carl Road, Sunnyvale for free disposal (408-752-8530) or visit www.hhw.org for a list of certified collection centers (from the home page, choose "Used Motor Oil and Filter Recycling").

## **New E-Waste Events**

A new monthly e-waste drop-off program began in June at locations around Santa Clara County. This State-certified program is operated by the County of Santa Clara on behalf of the cities. The recycling contractor was carefully chosen to ensure the e-waste is properly handled (no waste is sent overseas). The revenue earned from the e-waste recycling is used to sponsor these events. No appointment is necessary.

Residents may bring their unwanted computer monitors, computers, televisions, printers, fax machines, calculators, keyboards, mouse, cell phones or any consumer electronic device for safe recycling and disposal. Check **www.mvrecycle.org** for information about the location of each monthly event. Mountain View residents may also drop off e-waste at the SMaRT Station in Sunnyvale (see map p.4) daily 8 am to 5 pm.

Household hazardous wastes (batteries, paint, oil, pesticides, propane/balloon tanks) are NOT accepted at these events or the SMaRT Station. Call **408-299-7300** or visit **www.hhw.org** to schedule an appointment to drop off these items at the monthly household hazardous waste event.



**Is It E-Waste?** E-waste is any consumer product which contains a circuit board, mercury thermostat or has an electronic screen larger than 4 inches.

## **Paper or Plastic? Bring Your Own Bag!**

Bringing your own shopping bag is an easy way to make a difference. One reusable bag can replace 100's of plastic and paper bags over its lifetime. Not convinced? Consider these facts:

#### Disposable shopping bags are not "free."

There are many hidden costs to disposable bags, including resource consumption and litter clean-up. When retailers give away free bags, their costs are passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices.

**Plastic bags are difficult and expensive to recycle**. In California, less than 3% of plastic bags are recycled. It costs more to recycle a plastic bag than to produce a new one (due to sorting and deinking problems and the low quality of plastic used in bags). Bags get caught in conveyors and pulleys at recycling facilities, causing frequent shut downs.

## Paper bags are not better for the environment than plastic bags.

They both have environmental impacts, including depleting natural resources and causing pollution. The production of paper bags generates 70% more air and 50 times more water pollution than plastic bags.

## Tips to remember your bags

- Include "bags" as the first item on your shopping list
- Put your coupons in your bag and keep it by the door
- Keep reusable bags in the trunk of your car and put a small note on the dashboard to remind you to bring them in
- Purchase a few compact reusable bags and keep them in a purse, jacket pocket, backpack or attach to your keychain
- Teach your kids to remind you



#### **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

## How to Recycle at Home

#### **Household Batteries**

Place used batteries in the bag provided by Foothill Disposal and set on top of cart. Foothill will empty it and return the bag to you for reuse. (Please put tape over battery terminals to reduce the risk of fire. Spent batteries may have enough voltage remaining to start a fire.)

#### **Mixed Containers (Blue Lid)**

Place glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles and wide-mouth tubs #1 through #7, metal cans and metal lids in the cart under the blue lid.

#### Paper (Grey Lid)

Put newspaper, mixed paper, food boxes and small cardboard pieces in the cart under the grey lid.

#### **Used Motor Oil and Filters**

Put used motor oil and filters in containers provided by Foothill Disposal and set on top of the curb.

#### **Cardboard**

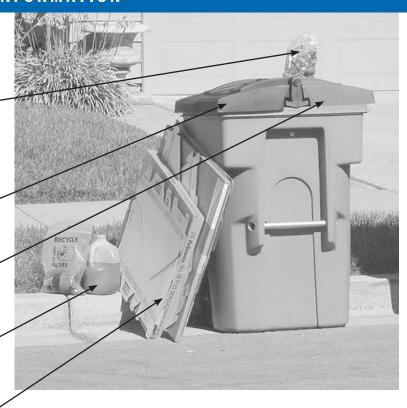
Cut large cardboard into pieces about 3'x3' and place on top of curb.

#### Extra yard trimmings and recycling

If you *regularly* have extra recycling or yard waste, order a larger or second cart (no charge). If you *occasionally* need more service, use an On Call Plus Clean Up appointment (no charge) or schedule an extra collection (\$10/cart). Call Foothill Disposal at **650-967-3034**.

#### Extra garbage

Purchase extra garbage stickers (\$5) from any local Lucky, Safeway, Nob Hill or Rite-Aid stores, the City Library or Finance Department at City Hall. Attach one sticker to each 32-gallon garbage bag and place next to your garbage cart.



#### Where to Set Out Carts

- **1** Set out all carts **in the street** by 6 am on collection day. Remove carts no later than the next day.
- **2** Place carts in the street **at least 18 inches apart** (for mechanical collection). Keep carts away from overhanging trees, carports and balconies.
- **3** Store the carts inside the garage or behind a fence, hedge, or area screened from street view as a courtesy to your neighbors. If these areas are unavailable, place the carts on the side of the garage or house.
- **4** Do not place carts on top of the curb or on the sidewalk unless there are obstructions such as parked cars or parking is prohibited. In this situation, driver will collect carts from the top of the curb.

Questions? Call Foothill Disposal at 650-967-3034.

#### WHAT'S RECYCLABLE?

## What's accepted?

#### Paper

All paper should be clean and without food residue.

Catalogs, magazines, telephone books (no plastic wrapper)

Cereal and cake mix boxes (remove all liners)

Computer and plain fax paper

Construction or art paper (less than 50% painted)

Corrugated cardboard boxes (flattened)

Egg cartons (paper only)

Gift-wrapping paper and greeting cards

Junk mail and envelopes (plastic windows okay)

Manila file folders

Newspaper and inserts

Paper (any color), tablet paper and backs

Paper bags

Paperback books

Post-it notes

Shoe or clothes boxes (flattened)

Shredded paper (no plastic bag)

Store receipts (NCR carbonless ok)

#### **Glass Bottles and Jars**

Beverage bottles

Canning jars

Jam and peanut butter jars

Olive oil and vinegar bottles

Soup and spaghetti jars

Wine bottles (no corks/wrappers)

#### **Metal Cans**

Aluminum cans
Bimetal cans (cat food cans)
Metal food cans and lids
Steel and tin cans



#### Plastic Bottles and Tubs #1 through #7

Baby wipe tubs

Bakery, deli and salad tubs (no clamshells)\*

Catsup bottles

Cottage cheese tubs

Detergent bottles

Margarine tubs Milk jugs

Peanut butter jars

Prescription bottles

Shampoo bottles

Syrup bottles

Water, soda and juice bottles

Yogurt tubs

## What's not accepted?

#### Paper

Any paper that has touched food.

Beverage cups, coffee cups

Binder clips (staples and small paperclips okay)

Donut boxes, fast-food cups, burger wrappers

Egg cartons (polystyrene foam)

Foil gift wrap

Food and candy wrappers, snack or potato chip bags

Frozen food boxes

Hardback books

Ice cream cartons

Milk, soy, juice cartons or bags

Paper covered with paint or pet waste

Pizza boxes

Plastic-coated papers (photographs)

Spiral-bound notebooks or vinyl binders

Tissues, paper towels, paper plates

Waxed (dark brown) cardboard

#### **Metal Cans**

Aerosol can (empty or full)

Construction debris, nails, metal pipes or car parts

Pots, pans and appliances

#### **Glass Bottles and Jars**

Ceramic coffee cups or dishes

Drinking glasses

Fluorescent tubes or any light bulb Mirrors, picture frame glass, window glass

#### **Plastic Bottles and Tubs**

Any plastic container not marked #1 through #7

Any plastic container larger than 2-gallons

Beverage cups, plates, utensils and straws

Bubble-wrap, shrink-wrap, plastic tarps

Buckets, laundry baskets, crates, plant pots, pails

Clamshells (deli, fast-food)\*

Computer disks or "jewel" boxes for disks

Foam beverage cups, food or meat trays

Foam packaging, blocks or "peanuts" (Styrofoam)

Garden hoses or plastic toys

Lids and caps

Medical waste (saline bags, needles/

syringes)
Photographs, negatives, microfiche, transparencies

Plastic bags of any kind even if marked #1 through #7

Plastic pens, pencils, glue bottles and glue sticks

Styrofoam

Toothpaste and ointment tubes



<sup>\*</sup> Clamshells are containers with a connected lid.

## For Homes with Split Carts: When is my Collection Day?

#### Find Your Collection Day/Recycling Week:

- **1** Locate your neighborhood on the map below and note the collection day and color (or use the online street index below\*).
- **2** Match the color to the calendar at right for the recycling week (i.e. Grey = Week B).**Example**: On Church Street between Hope and Castro, garbage day is every Tuesday, and recycling day is every other Tuesday starting on January 6 (Week A).

Questions? Call Foothill Disposal for schedules.

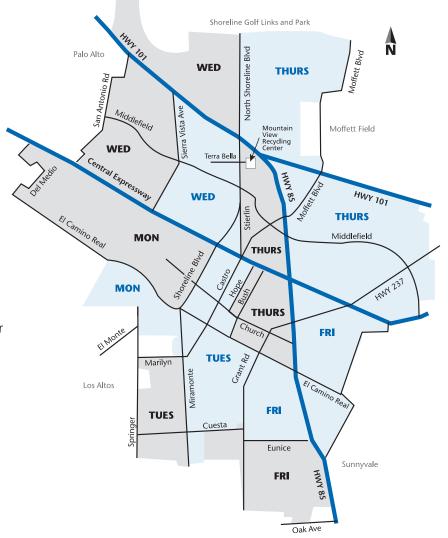
Apartments with group carts should call Foothill Disposal at 650-967-3034 for schedules.

#### **Holidays**

Collection occurs on all holidays except Thanksgiving (November 26), Christmas (December 25) and New Year's Day (January 1). If your collection day falls on or after the holiday, collection will occur one day later that week, with Friday collection on Saturday.

#### Free On-Call Plus Clean Up Program

Residents may schedule 3 curbside collections of extra trash, yard waste and bulky goods by calling Foothill Disposal at 650-967-3034. Appointments may be scheduled any time before December 18, 2009 and can be used to set out extra material in an 8'L x 4'W x 4'H area PLUS up to 3 bulky goods such as a washer, sofa and mattress at no charge. Appointments may be exchanged for a voucher to self-haul to the SMaRT Station in Sunnyvale. No appointments accepted December 18, 2009 through January 15, 2010.



Color = Week A Grey = Week B



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\*Find your collection day online: **www.mvrecycle.org** and click on collection schedule.



## E-Waste and Household Hazardous Waste Services

Effective February, 2006, California banned consumer electronics and other hazardous waste from the trash. These items cannot be placed in garbage or recycling containers because they contain lead, copper, mercury or chromium that can pollute the environment. The SMaRT Station and the County Household Hazardous Waste Program accept many items without charge. Foothill also accepts many items in the On-Call Plus Clean Up Program without charge, but fees may apply for special handling of refrigerators, computer monitors and television sets.

#### Foothill Disposal (650-967-3034) Curbside Collection On Call Plus (no fee)

- Batteries (household¹)
- Cell phones<sup>2</sup>, telephones, answering machines
- Computer disk drives
- Fax machines, calculators
- Keyboards, mouse
- Microwaves, stoves
- PDAs, camcorders, digital cameras
- Printers, scanners
- Radios, stereos, tape players/recorders
- VCRs, DVD players
- Washer, dryer
- Water heaters

#### **Special Collection (fee)**

- Air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers
- Computer monitors, laptops
- Televisions
- Tires

#### SMaRT Station (408-752-8530) 301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale (see map p.4) (fee/no fee)

- Air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers (fee)
- Batteries (household¹ and vehicle)
- Cell phones<sup>2</sup>, telephones, answering machines
- Computer monitors, laptops, disk drives
- Fax machines, printers, scanners, calculators
- Fluorescent tubes, compact bulbs
- Keyboard, mouse
- Microwaves (fee) and stoves (fee)
- PDAs, camcorders, digital cameras
- Radios, stereos, tape players/recorders
- Sharps (hypodermic needles)
- Televisions
- Thermometers, thermostats
- Tires (fee)
- VCRs and DVD players
- Washer, dryer (fee)
- Water heaters (fee)



#### County HHW Facility (408-299-7300) By Appointment Only (no fee)

- Batteries (household¹)
- Fire extinguishers, flares
- Fluorescent tubes, compact bulbs
- Oil, paints, solvents, pesticides
- Pool chemicals, asbestos
- Medicine
- Propane/balloon tanks
- Sharps (hypodermic needles)
- Smoke detectors
- Thermometers and thermostats.
  - <sup>1</sup> Household batteries may also be recycled through the residential curbside program (**650-967-3034**).
  - <sup>2</sup> Cell phones may be taken back to retail stores.

## **Recycling Directory**

## Bulb and Battery Take-Back Locations

Fluorescent lamps (compact bulbs, straight, circular, spiral and U-bent tubes) and Household batteries (no automotive batteries) from residential households can be taken to the following locations free of charge:

#### Lamps and batteries

Blossom True Value Hardware 1297 W El Camino Real, 650-964-7871 (Leave with employee at register)

Orchard Supply Hardware 2555 Charleston Road, 650-691-2000 (Leave at customer service desk)

#### Lamps only

New Era Lighting 2243 Old Middlefield Way, 650-940-1559

#### **Batteries only**

Wolfe Camera 1898 W El Camino Real, 650-968-5666

### **Services**

#### Utility and garbage billing information

including starting or changing garbage accounts, and purchasing extra garbage tags. City Finance and Administrative Services Department 650-903-6317

#### Garbage and recycling collection

including pickup schedule, missed pickups, what's recyclable, extra bins, extra yard trimmings, clean up and bulky goods services. Foothill Disposal Company 650-967-3034

**Household batteries** can be taken to either Mountain View or SMaRT Station recycling centers (above). Residents with split carts may use curbside pickup (see page 2).

**Household hazardous waste** can be taken for free disposal by appointment.
County Toxics Hotline
408-299-7300

#### Home composting information

including free local workshops, compost bins and brochures.

County Compost Hotline 408-918-4640 www.ReduceWaste.org

www.hhw.org

Pollution prevention information including

best methods to reduce pollution. City Environmental Safety Staff 650-903-6378

#### **Recycling Leaders Program**

City Public Works Department 650-903-6311

**Water conservation** information including methods, technology, and product rebates. City Water Conservation Staff 650-903-6216

Visit the City of Mountain View's web

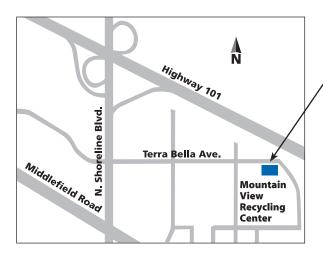
**site** for business or residential recycling information: **www.mvrecycle.org** 



The Resource is printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Call 650-903-6311.

# Buy-Back & Drop-Off Recycling Centers

Mountain View sponsors two recycling centers where residents and businesses can drop off extra recycling or redeem "California Redemption Value" cans and bottles for cash.



#### Mountain View Recycling Center 935 Terra Bella Avenue, Mountain View

**Hours**: Buy-back Tues-Sat 9 am-3 pm Drop-off Mon-Sat 7:30 am to 6 pm.

**Questions?** Call Foothill Disposal at 650-967-3034. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Days.

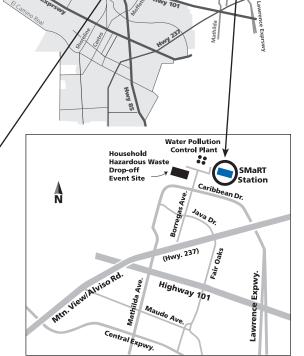
#### **Recyclables Accepted** (no charge)

- Cardboard
- Glass bottles and jars
- Household batteries\*
- Metal cans and lids
- Mixed Paper
- Newspaper
- Plastic bottles and tubs #1 through #7
- \* Batteries are accepted only during Buy-Back hours, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday

Please take motor oil, antifreeze, vehicle batteries,

fluorescent lights or construction material to the SMaRT Station.





Mountain View Recycling Center

**SMaRTStation** 

#### SMaRT Station 301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale

The SMaRT Station is the materials recovery and refuse transfer facility shared by the Cities of Mountain View, Palo Alto and Sunnyvale. In addition to providing buy-back and drop-off services, the Station processes Mountain View's garbage, yard trimmings, and recycling and accepts debris from the public (fee applies). Free compost and mulch may be picked up by residents at the drop-off center.

**Hours:** Daily 7 days a week 8 am–5 pm.

Questions? Call SMaRT at 408-752-8530.

#### **Recyclables Accepted** (no charge)

- Cardboard
- Glass bottles and jars
- Household batteries
- Metal cans and lids
- Mixed Paper
- Newspaper
- Plastic bottles and tubs #1 through #7
- Plastic bags
- Scrap metal less than 6 feet long, pots and pans

## **Solid Waste and Recycling Calendar 2009**

September	
19	California Coastal Cleanup Day www.cleanacreek.org Compost Workshop Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day
October	
17	Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day
November	
15	America Recycles Day www.americarecyclesday.org
21	Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day
December	
Dec 18–Jan 15	Holiday Tree Collection
Dec 26–Jan 8	Extra Holiday Recycling on your regular pick up day



To make an appointment, call Santa Clara County HHW Program at **408-299-7300**.

Visit **www.hhw.org** for more information.

#### Compost Workshop

To register and request a compost bin, call Santa Clara County Home Composting Program at 408-918-4640 or register online at www.reducewaste.org.



